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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,638	07/23/2003	Ruediger Schlien	81558/LPK	8070

7590 06/22/2004

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EXAMINER	
GRAINGER, QUANA MASHELL	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2852	

DATE MAILED: 06/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/625,638	SCHLIEN, RUEDIGER	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Quana Grainger	2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-15* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-7 and 11-14* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *8-10 and 15* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *23 July 2003* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement filed 10/3/2003 and 8/27/2003 has been considered.

Drawings

3. The formal drawings are objected to because the anilox roller is not clearly shown.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-5 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sonoguchi et al. (JP2001034106A). The reproduction apparatus by Sonoguchi et al. comprises process stations for forming a toner particle image on a receiver sheet and fusing said image to said receiver sheet, wherein the fusing station includes a fuser roller heated to a sufficient temperature to fuse toner to the receiver sheet, and a release agent metering station to apply a release oil to said fuser roller to substantially prevent toner particle offset thereto, said release agent metering station comprising a reservoir for holding a supply of release agent material;

an anilox roller, associated with said reservoir, having a surface with a plurality of metering cavities for holding metered amounts of release agent material from said reservoir; and

a donor member disposed in contact with said anilox roller and the fuser roller for transferring said metered amounts of release agent from said anilox roller to the fuser roller (Figures 1, 2, 16). The donor member comprises a donor roller engaged with the fuser roller and with said anilox roller, said donor roller receiving metered amounts of release agent material from said anilox roller and transferring said metered amounts of release agent to the fuser roller. The release agent material is liquid (Figure 1). The release agent metering station further comprising a first doctor blade 25 engaging the surface of said anilox roller to remove excess release agent material from said surface before said surface contacts said donor roller. The first doctor blade is oriented in a direction opposing travel of said anilox roller (Figures 1 or 2).

Sonoguchi et al. teaches an electrostatographic reproduction process and release agent metering method to prevent toner particles from offsetting to a fuser member, comprising the steps of charging and selectively discharging a charge retentive member to create a latent image on the charge retentive member; applying toner particles to the charge retentive member to develop the latent image; transferring the developed image to a receiver sheet and fusing the transferred, developed image to a receiver sheet wherein a fuser member is heated to a sufficient temperature to fuse toner to the receiver sheet; holding a supply of release agent material; passing an anilox roller with a plurality of metering cavities through the supply of release agent material in order to withdraw metered amounts of release agent material; and

transferring the metered amounts of release agent to the fuser roller (Figure 1). The method further step of engaging the anilox roller 23 with a donor roller 24 and engaging the donor roller

with the fuser roller for transferring the metered amounts of release agent from anilox roller to the fuser roller. The further comprising engaging a first doctor blade 25 with the surface of the anilox roller to remove excess release agent from the surface of the anilox roller before said surface contacts the donor roller.

6. Claims 1-6 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamamuro (JP11-38814A). The reproduction apparatus by Yamamuro comprises process stations for forming a toner particle image on a receiver sheet and fusing said image to said receiver sheet, wherein the fusing station includes a fuser roller heated to a sufficient temperature to fuse toner to the receiver sheet, and a release agent metering station to apply a release oil to said fuser roller to substantially prevent toner particle offset thereto, said release agent metering station comprising a reservoir for holding a supply of release agent material; an anilox roller 21, associated with said reservoir, having a surface with a plurality of metering cavities for holding metered amounts of release agent material from said reservoir; and a donor member 22 disposed in contact with said anilox roller and the fuser roller for transferring said metered amounts of release agent from said anilox roller to the fuser roller (Figure 1). The donor member comprises a donor roller 22 engaged with the fuser roller and with said anilox roller, said donor roller receiving metered amounts of release agent material from said anilox roller and transferring said metered amounts of release agent to the fuser roller. The release agent material is liquid. The release agent metering station further comprising a first doctor blade engaging the surface of said anilox roller to remove excess release agent material from said surface before said surface contacts said donor roller.

Yamamuro teaches a first doctor blade is oriented in a direction opposing travel of said anilox roller 21. The release agent metering station wherein a portion of said anilox roller 21 is immersed in the release agent material in said reservoir. Yamamuro teaches an electrostatographic reproduction process and release agent metering method to prevent toner particles from offsetting to a fuser member, comprising the steps of charging and selectively discharging a charge retentive member to create a latent image on the charge retentive member; applying toner particles to the charge retentive member to develop the latent image; transferring the developed image to a receiver sheet and fusing the transferred, developed image to a receiver sheet wherein a fuser member is heated to a sufficient temperature to fuse toner to the receiver sheet; holding a supply of release agent material; passing an anilox roller with a plurality of metering cavities through the supply of release agent material in order to withdraw metered amounts of release agent material; and transferring the metered amounts of release agent to the fuser roller. The method further step of engaging the anilox roller with a donor roller and engaging the donor roller with the fuser roller for transferring the metered amounts of release agent from anilox roller to the fuser roller. The method further comprising engaging a first doctor blade 23 with the surface of the anilox roller to remove excess release agent from the surface of the anilox roller before said surface contacts the donor roller.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sonoguchi et al. or Yamamuro in view of Condello et al. (JP11-249475A). Neither Sonoguchi et al. nor Yamamuro teach two blades.

Condello et al. teaches two blades (116,118) on the anilox roller. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Condello et al. with the fixing device of Sonoguchi et al. or Yamamuro to ensure a constant amount of oil is transferred to the donor roller.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 8-10 and 15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Prior Art of Record

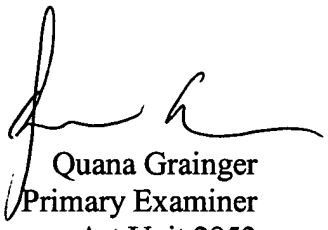
10. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kobayashi (JP10-333478A) teaches an agent supplying device having surface roughness that controls the amount of agent supplied. Heurich et al. (4,301,730) teaches an anilox roll.

Contact Information

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quana Grainger whose telephone number is 571-272-2135. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays between the hours of 7-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Arthur Grimley can be reached on 571-272-2136. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Quana Grainger
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2852

QG